

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VALLET 00571 201106Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00
DLOS-09 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 FEA-01 FPC-01 STR-04
/140 W

-----201125Z 100474 /17

P R 201031Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7395
INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
EUCOM
SECDEF
USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 0571

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, PBOR, IT, LY, TS, MT
SUBJECT: TUNISIAN-LIBYAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE; DRILLING
BY READING AND BATES

REF: (A) STATE 095427, (NOTAL), (B) STATE 115659, (NOTAL),
(C) TUNIS 3429 (NOTAL),

1. RON TAPPMAYER, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF READING AND
BATES, IN MALTA ON A BRIEF VISIT, INFORMED AMBASSADOR THAT
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THE DRILLING RIG "J.W. BATES" WOULD ARRIVE IN MALTA MAY 21
TO TAKE ON PROVISIONS AND SUPPLIES BEFORE CONTINUING ON ABOUT
MAY 23 TO ITS PLANNED DRILLING SITE IN DISPUTED ZONE.

2. ACCORDING TO TAPPMAYER, READING AND BATES ACCEPTED THE
CONTRACT FOR MONETARY REASONS, IT BEING THE "ONLY"
CONTRACT TO BE HAD. (HE CITED THE FIVE RIGS NOW IDLE IN

MALTA HARBORS AS INDICATIVE OF THE PRESENT WORLD-WIDE SLUMP IN EXPLORATORY DRILLING.) HE STATED THAT READING AND BATES WOULD RECEIVE AN OPERATING FEE OF US DOLS 25,000 PER DAY, WHICH, COMPARED TO THE US DOLS 5000 COST PER DAY OF THE RIG SITTING IDLE, MEANT THAT THE CONTRACT REPRESENTED A US DOLS 30,000 PER DAY DIFFERENCE TO MADING AND BATES. REGARDING POTENTIAL THREATS TO THE RIG, TAPPMeyer PROFESSED NOT TO BE CONCERNED, IN VIEW OF ADEQUATE INSURANCE COVERAGE. HIS ONLY REAL CONCERN, HE ADDED, WAS FOR THE SAFETY OF THE CREW. (IN ADDITION TO AMERICANS AND OTHER NATIONALS, THE CREW WILL ALSO INCLUDE MALTESE.)

3. COMMENT: TAPPMeyer'S COMMENTS AND ATTITUDE IMPLIED THAT PERHAPS SOMETHING YET MIGHT POSSIBLY OCCUR TO HALT THIS PARTICULAR OPERATION. LAINGEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, CONTINENTAL SHELF, OFFSHORE DRILLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770532/aaaabbyt.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, PBOR, IT, LY, TS, MT, READING & BATES
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